Beginning: THE FLIRTATIOUS PRINCESS.

THE OLD MOUNTAIN KINGDOM OF PATHIA, NEAR THE PHANTOM'S JUNGLES, IS DIVIDED INTO TWO PARTS~~

DUCHY OF JORGE

BARONY OF GANT

Deep Woods

PATHIA IS RULED BY OLD KING PATER, WHO KEEPS HIS SHAKY CROWN ON HIS HEAD ONLY BECAUSE~

~DUKE JORGE AND BARON GANT, THE REAL POWERS, ARE JEALOUS OF EACH OTHER~~

With all my love Duke Jorge

Affectionately Baron Gant

BUT THE OLD KING'S MAIN PROBLEM IS HIS LOVELY, FLIRTATIOUS DAUGHTER, GWENA.

I MUST BE BEAUTIFUL. EVERYBODY SAYS SO.

WILSON McCOY 4-25

THE FATEFUL COURT BALL AT KING PATER'S MOUNTAIN PALACE. PATER AND HIS DAUGHTER GWENA RECEIVE THE GUESTS~~

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WILL YOU MARRY ME, GWENA?

YES, BARON GANT.

PLEASE BE MINE FOREVER, GWENA. MARRY ME~~

YES, DUKE JORGE.

OH~~ WHAT HAVE I DONE?!

WILSON McCOY 4-26

WHAT? YOU PROMISED TO MARRY BOTH BARON GANT AND DUKE JORGE, AT THE BALL LAST NIGHT?

YES, DADDY~

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THERE WAS SUCH A BIG MOON, I LOST MY HEAD.

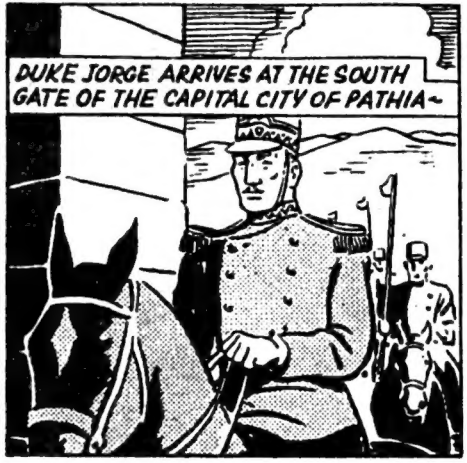
AND I'M LIABLE TO LOSE MY CROWN!

THE ONLY REASON I'VE KEPT IT IS BECAUSE THEY'RE JEALOUS OF EACH OTHER! THIS'LL MEAN TROUBLE~ MAYBE WAR~~

OH, DADDY, WHAT'LL I DO?

STAY OUT OF THE MOONLIGHT! MEANWHILE, I'LL HAVE TO THINK OF SOMETHING!

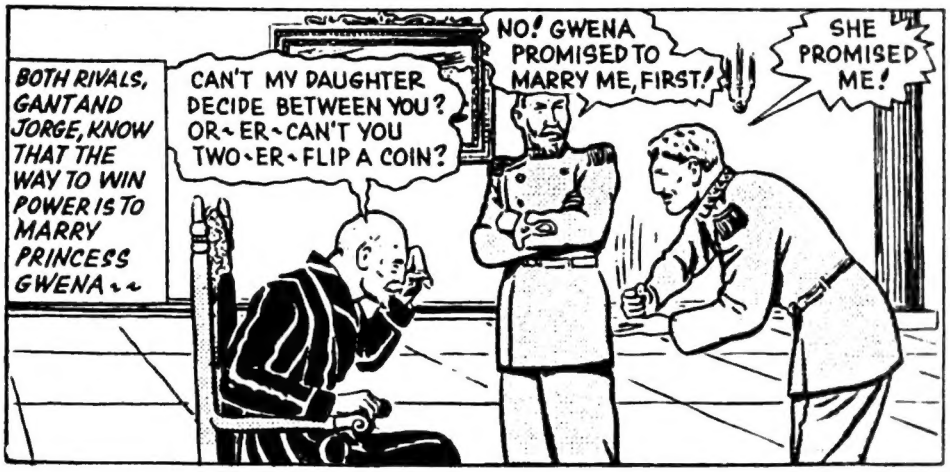
WILSON McCOY 4-27


DUKE JORGE ARRIVES AT THE SOUTH GATE OF THE CAPITAL CITY OF PATHIA~

BARON GANT ARRIVES AT THE NORTH GATE~~

THEIR EXCELLENCIES DUKE JORGE AND BARON GANT TO SEE YOUR MAJESTY.
SPUTTER~~

YOUR DAUGHTER PROMISED TO MARRY ME!
GWENA PROMISED TO MARRY ME!
WILSON McCOY 4-28


BOTH RIVALS, GANT AND JORGE, KNOW THAT THE WAY TO WIN POWER IS TO MARRY PRINCESS GWENA~~
CAN'T MY DAUGHTER DECIDE BETWEEN YOU? OR~ER~CAN'T YOU TWO~ER~FLIP A COIN?
NO! GWENA PROMISED TO MARRY ME, FIRST!
SHE PROMISED ME!

WHY SO GLOOMY, MAJOR CARL?
GWENA, DO YOU REALIZE WHAT YOU'VE DONE? DUKE JORGE AND BARON GANT~~

~~"ARE BOTH THREATENING TO TEAR THE CITY DOWN~BECAUSE YOU PROMISED TO MARRY EACH OF THEM!"

I GOT SO CONFUSED~BECAUSE OF THE MOONLIGHT~THAT NIGHT. DO YOU THINK I'M SO NAUGHTY?
AS YOU KNOW~~
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~~I THINK YOU'RE ADORABLE!~YOU LITTLE FLIRT~~!
WILSON McCOY 4-29
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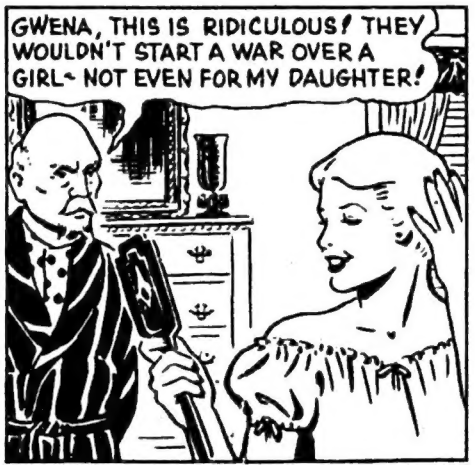
GWENA, THIS IS RIDICULOUS! THEY WOULDN'T START A WAR OVER A GIRL~NOT EVEN FOR MY DAUGHTER!

NO~?
HMM~MAYBE THEY WOULD! THIS IS TERRIBLE. WHAT CAN I DO?
WILSON McCOY 4-30

WORRIED BY THREATS OF WAR IN NEAR-BY PATHIA, THE JUNGLE CHIEFTAINS GO TO THE DEEP WOODS
THEIR WAR WILL COME TO THE JUNGLE.
THE PHANTOM WILL KNOW WHAT TO DO.

THEY MOVE CAUTIOUSLY, WATCHING FOR THE PYGMY BANDAR AND THEIR POISON WEAPONS
WE ARE NEAR THE DEEP WOODS.
THE BANDAR ARE TOUCHY LITTLE FOLKS.
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SUDDENLY, ONE APPEARS!
WE SEEK THE GHOST WHO WALKS, FOR ADVICE.
HE IS NOT IN THE DEEP WOODS.
WORLD RIGHTS RESERVED.

HE WILL BE HERE SOON FOR THE SPRING FESTIVALS. WE WILL WAIT.
WAIT IN SILENCE, THEN! WE BANDAR DISLIKE JABBERING!
TOUCHY LITTLE FOLKS, INDEED!
WILSON McCOY 5-2

NEWS TRAVELS FAST AMONG THE JUNGLE PEOPLE--
THE CHIEFTAINS AWAIT THE PHANTOM IN THE DEEP WOODS--
THE PHANTOM IS WISE. HE WILL HALT THE MOUNTAIN WAR.

IT TRAVELS EVEN TO THE JUNGLE PEOPLE WHO WORK IN THE KITCHENS OF THE KING OF PATHIA--
THE PHANTOM WILL RETURN--
--AND STOP THE FIGHTING OVER THE PRINCESS.

PIKO, WHAT ARE THEY BUZZING ABOUT IN THE KITCHENS?
JUNGLE SAY PHANTOM COME BACK. HE STOP WAR. YOU NO WORRY, YOUR MAJESTY.

IF ONLY THAT LEGENDARY JUNGLE BOGEYMAN WERE REAL-- IF ONLY HE COULD HELP ME--
WILSON McCOY 5-3

AT DIANA'S HOME, FAR FROM THE JUNGLE AND PATHIA.
DON'T BE SO EDGY. DIANA WILL BE BACK FROM THAT CLINIC WITH HER MOTHER IN A WEEK.

I MISS DIANA, BUT IT'S NOT THAT. IT'S SPRING, DAVE! TIME FOR THE FESTIVALS IN THE JUNGLE VILLAGES. FEASTING, DANCING--

THEY EXPECT ME EVERY YEAR. I SHOULD BE THERE.
IF YOU FEEL IT'S IMPORTANT, WHY DON'T YOU GO?
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I WILL!
THERE'S A MAN WHO KNOWS HOW TO MAKE UP HIS MIND!
WILSON McCOY 5-4

GWENA, DO SOMETHING ABOUT YOUR SWAINS! TELL THEM TO TAKE THEIR TROOPS AWAY! MAKE UP YOUR MIND ABOUT THEM!
DO SOME-THING!
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DARLING, YOU PROMISED YOU'D MARRY ME
I KNOW, BARON GANT.
WORLD RIGHTS RESERVED

GWENA, WE SAID WE'D GO THRU LIFE TOGETHER.
I KNOW, DUKE JORGE.

SHE'S FIXED EVERYTHING! WE'RE RIGHT BACK WHERE WE STARTED!
TOO BAD SHE ISN'T TWINS. THAT'D SOLVE EVERYTHING.
WILSON McCOY 5-5

THE PHANTOM REACHES MORRISTOWN, ON THE BENGALI COAST---
COME ON, DEVIL! HERO'S WAITING FOR US! I CAN SMELL THE JUNGLE FROM HERE.

HERO! WONDERFUL TO SEE YOU AGAIN! WONDERFUL JUNGLE! NOTHING AHEAD BUT PEACE AND QUIET! WONDERFUL TO BE HOME!

PEACE AND QUIET? AHEAD, ANXIOUS JUNGLE CHIEFTAINS AWAIT HIM, WORRIED ABOUT A WAR THAT MAY ENGULF THEM--

--AND MOST DANGEROUS OF ALL THAT LIES AHEAD OF HIM, A FLIRTATIOUS PRINCESS WHO CAN'T MAKE UP HER MIND.
EVERYONE WANTS TO MARRY ME! I CAN'T BLAME THEM!
WILSON, McCOY 5-6

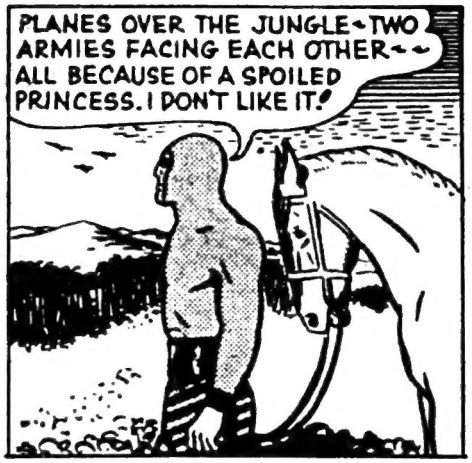
THE PHANTOM REACHES THE DEEP WOODS BY HIS SECRET TRAIL---
ALMOST THERE. MY VACATION IS BEGINNING--

THE PYGMY POISON PEOPLE GREET HIM JOYOUSLY--
HELLO, MEN OF BANDAR

WAR-IN PATHIA?
NOT YET-BUT SOON. ABOUT A PRINCESS! THE JUNGLE CHIEFTAINS FEAR IT. THEY AWAIT AUDIENCE WITH YOU.

BRING THEM IN. SO BEGINS MY VACATION!
WILSON, McCOY 5-7

ALARMED BY THE THREAT OF WAR IN PATHIA, THE PHANTOM POSTS GUARDS ALONG THE JUNGLE'S EDGE.

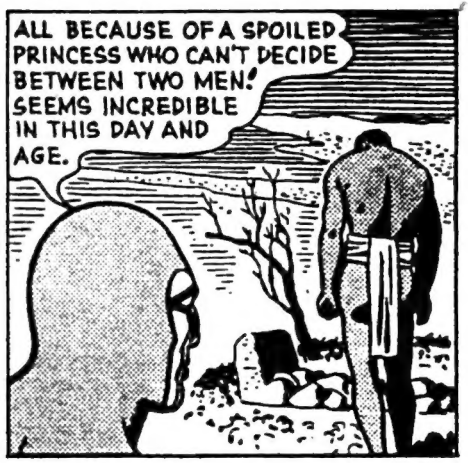

PLANES OVER THE JUNGLE-TWO ARMIES FACING EACH OTHER-- ALL BECAUSE OF A SPOILED PRINCESS. I DON'T LIKE IT!

MEANWHILE, IN ONE OF BARON GANT'S CRUISING BOMBERS--
WE'RE LOW ON GAS. LOSING ALTITUDE.
DROP A BOMB TO LIGHTEN THE LOAD. WE'RE OVER THE JUNGLE. CAN'T HURT ANYTHING.

WILSON McCOY 5-9

ONE OF BARON GANT'S BOMBERS CARELESSLY DROPS A BOMB INTO THE JUNGLE-TO LIGHTEN ITS LOAD.

THAT'S WHAT CAN HAPPEN IF THIS WAR STARTS, AND THAT WAS JUST AN ACCIDENT!


ALL BECAUSE OF A SPOILED PRINCESS WHO CAN'T DECIDE BETWEEN TWO MEN! SEEMS INCREDIBLE IN THIS DAY AND AGE.

I'LL GO TO HER PALACE IN PATHIA! MAYBE I CAN HELP HER TO MAKE UP HER MIND!
WILSON McCOY 5-10

WAIT HERE, FELLAS-AND DON'T MAKE A SOUND. I'M GOING TO SEE A LADY.

JUST BEFORE DAWN HE SLIPS PAST A SLEEPING SENTRY AND OVER THE PALACE WALL--

HOURS PASS AS HE HIDES IN THE ROYAL GARDEN--THEN--

SO THAT'S GWENA! I CAN SEE WHAT ALL THE SHOOTING'S ABOUT, NOW. SHE MAY BE SPOILED- BUT SHE'S QUITE A PRINCESS!
WILSON McCOY 5-11

THIS IS HUMILIATING. I WON'T STAY HERE MUCH LONGER!
NOR WILL I!
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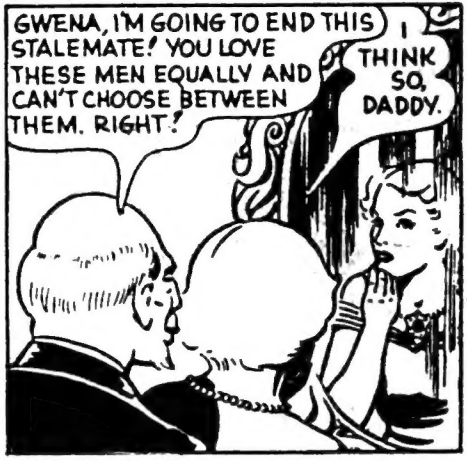
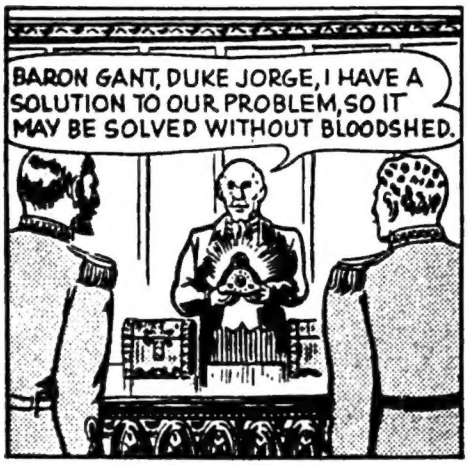
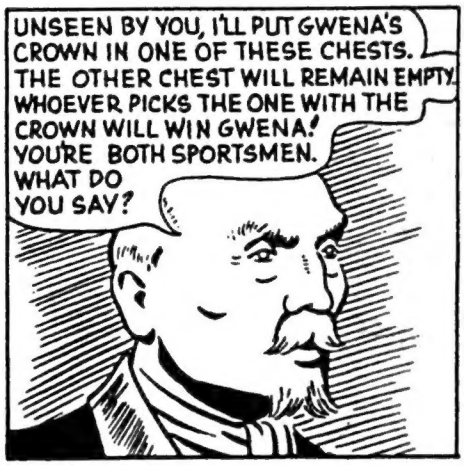
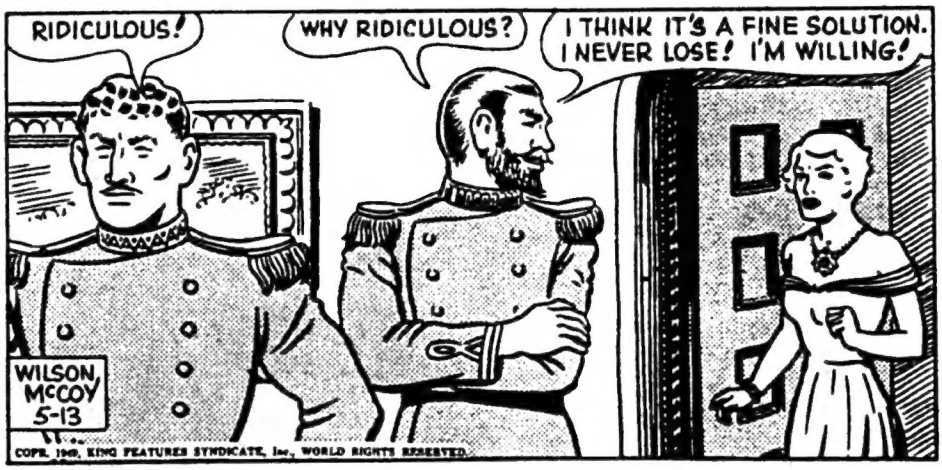

GWENA, I'M GOING TO END THIS STALEMATE! YOU LOVE THESE MEN EQUALLY AND CAN'T CHOOSE BETWEEN THEM. RIGHT!
I THINK SO, DADDY.

YOU'D BETTER KNOW SO, DEAR. SINCE YOU CAN'T DECIDE, I SHALL LET THEM DECIDE.
HOW CAN YOU DO THAT?

I HAVE THE SOLUTION. IT IS IN THESE TWO CHESTS. WHICHEVER ONE PICKS THE CORRECT CHEST WILL BE YOUR HUSBAND! AND THAT ENDS IT!
WILSON McCOOY 5-12


BARON GANT, DUKE JORGE, I HAVE A SOLUTION TO OUR PROBLEM, SO IT MAY BE SOLVED WITHOUT BLOODSHED.


UNSEEN BY YOU, I'LL PUT GWENA'S CROWN IN ONE OF THESE CHESTS. THE OTHER CHEST WILL REMAIN EMPTY. WHOEVER PICKS THE ONE WITH THE CROWN WILL WIN GWENA! YOU'RE BOTH SPORTSMEN. WHAT DO YOU SAY?


RIDICULOUS!
WHY RIDICULOUS?
I THINK IT'S A FINE SOLUTION. I NEVER LOSE! I'M WILLING!
WILSON McCOOY 5-13
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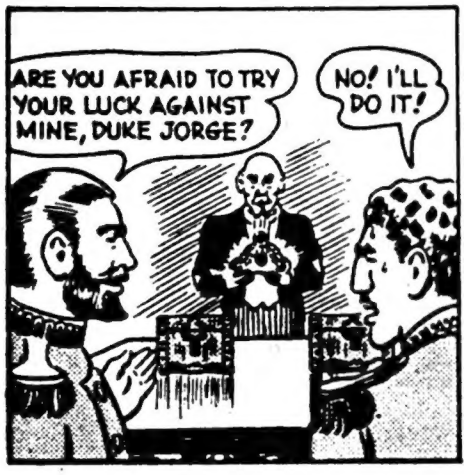
ARE YOU AFRAID TO TRY YOUR LUCK AGAINST MINE, DUKE JORGE?
NO! I'LL DO IT!

A SCREEN IS PLACED BEFORE THE TWO CHESTS~
VERY WELL, GENTLEMEN. I'LL PUT GWENA'S CROWN IN ONE OF THE CHESTS.

NOW~ WHOEVER PICKS THE CHEST WITH THE CROWN GETS GWENA! AND I'LL GET SOME REST!
DO YOU WISH TO TRY FIRST, BARON GANT?
AFTER YOU, DUKE. AND REMEMBER, I NEVER LOSE!
WILSON McCOOY 5-14

CHANGEABLE GWENA HALTS THE BRIDAL CONTEST~
STOP! I WON'T BE RAFFLED OFF LIKE THIS!
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~AND GANT ACTS FAST!
WIN OR LOSE, I INTENDED TO MARRY YOU ANYHOW!
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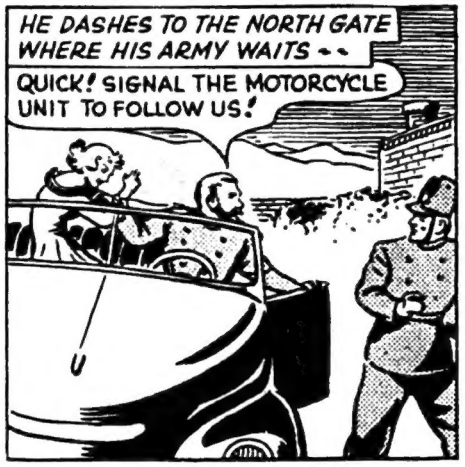
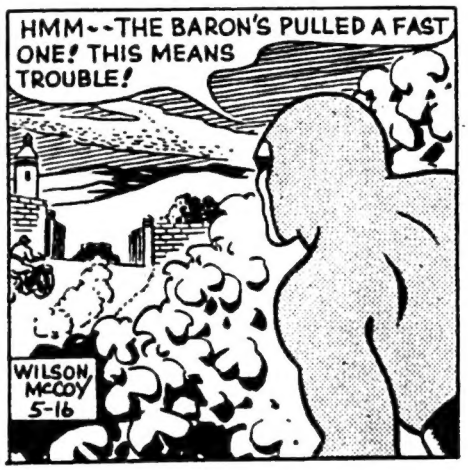

HE DASHES TO THE NORTH GATE WHERE HIS ARMY WAITS ~~
QUICK! SIGNAL THE MOTORCYCLE UNIT TO FOLLOW US!


HMM~~THE BARON'S PULLED A FAST ONE! THIS MEANS TROUBLE!
WILSON McCOY 5-16

GANT~STOLE ~~GWENA! HE ROBBED ME! STOP THEM!

COUNT, THIS SURPRISED ME~AS MUCH AS YOU!
GANT WON'T GET AWAY WITH THIS! I'LL FOLLOW WITH MY ARMY~AND DESTROY HIM!

AFTER ALL MY WORK TO AVOID WAR, IT'S HAPPENED! IF ONLY GWENA HAD BEEN REASONABLE~AND LET THEM DRAW~~ I WONDER WHO'D HAVE WON, CARL!

I WONDER! (GWENA LOVES ME, BUT WON'T ADMIT IT. THAT'S WHY SHE COULDN'T CHOOSE ONE OF THEM. AND I CAN DO NOTHING ABOUT IT~~)
WILSON McCOY 5-17

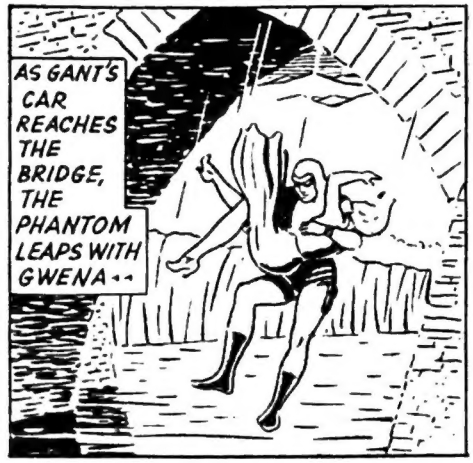
BRING UP THE MOTOR DIVISION! ALERT THE TANK AND AIR CORPS!
YES, COUNT JORGE!

HE'S BLOWIN' HIS TOP!
WOULDN'T YOU, IF SOMEBODY STOLE YOUR GAL? HE'LL TEAR THE COUNTRY APART!

MEANWHILE, GANT WITH GWENA, FAR AHEAD~
BARON GANT~DO YOU KNOW WHAT THIS MEANS?
YES, DEAR. THAT YOU COULDN'T MAKE UP YOUR MIND~SO I MADE IT UP FOR YOU.

MAYBE WE CAN STOP THIS THING, FELLAS! THE ODDS ARE IN OUR FAVOR~ONLY TWO ARMIES~~ AGAINST THREE OF US!
WILSON McCOY 5-18

THE PHANTOM TAKES A SHORT CUT THRU THE HILLS.
THERE THEY ARE, DOWN THERE.
FAR BELOW, IN THE VALLEY, HE SEES THE ARMY OF COUNT JORGE IN ANGRY PURSUIT...
...AND AHEAD OF THEM, BARON GANT'S FORCES, CARRYING OFF THE PRIZE - PRINCESS GWENA!
ISN'T THAT A SIGHT, FELLAS? ONE ARMY CHASING ANOTHER - BECAUSE OF A GIRL! ONLY ONE THING CAN STOP THEM. IT MAY WORK...
WILSON McCOY 5-19
GANT, THIS IS MADNESS. I WON'T HAVE THIS FIGHTING OVER ME! TAKE ME BACK TO DADDY, PLEASE...
TOO LATE, HONEY. JORGE'S BEEN JEALOUS OF ME FOR YEARS. NOW WE'LL SEE WHO'S STRONGER...
AHEAD, ATOP A NATURAL ARCH OVER THE ROAD.
WILSON McCOY 5-20
MADE IT!
AS BARON GANT'S CAR SPEEDS ALONG, A STRANGE FIGURE JUMPS INTO IT, OUT OF THE THIN AIR!
KEEP DRIVING, BARON
W-W-WHAT THE ??
WILSON McCOY 5-21


AS GANT'S CAR REACHES THE BRIDGE, THE PHANTOM LEAPS WITH GWENA--

STUNNED, GANT RUSHES TO THE RAILING--

WILSON McCOY 5-23

DON'T SHOOT, FOOLS! YOU'LL HIT HER!--WHO IS THAT MANIAC?

JORGE REACHES THE REAR GUARD OF BARON GANT'S ARMY--
OUT OF MY WAY! I WANT TO SEE GANT!

NO WAR HAS BEEN DECLARED YET--THEY CLEAR THE WAY FOR THE FURIOUS COUNT--

TAKE IT EASY, JORGE. I HAVEN'T GOT GWENA.
YOU LIE, GANT! WHERE IS SHE? WHO HAS HER?

SHE'S IN THE RIVER--AND HE HAS HER-WHOEVER HE IS!
WILSON McCOY 5-24

WHAT MADNESS IS THIS? WHAT IS PRINCESS GWENA DOING IN THE RIVER?

HE JUMPED INTO MY CAR, FORCED ME TO STOP ON THE BRIDGE-THEN JUMPED OVER WITH HER! KIDNAPPED HER-WITH MY WHOLE ARMY WATCHING!

AND YOU INTEND TO STAND HERE-AND WATCH HIM DISAPPEAR WITH HER?
I-IT HAPPENED SO FAST-I'M STILL DAZED--

STOP-BLUB-BLUB-
SAVE YOUR BREATH. YOU'LL NEED IT. WE'VE GOT A LONG WAY TO GO.
WHAT'S THE PHANTOM UP TO?
WILSON McCOY 5-25

WHAT CAN WE DO, JORGE? WE CAN'T SHOOT~ MIGHT HIT HER.
WE'VE TWO ENTIRE ARMIES HERE! HE'S ONLY ONE MAN!
HOW FAR CAN HE SWIM? SEND YOUR ARMY ALONG THE NORTH BANK. I'LL SEND MINE ON THE SOUTH BANK~ HE HAS TO LAND SOMETIME.
WHAT GOES HERE? WHO'S THAT GUY IN THE WATER?
YOUR GUESS IS AS GOOD AS MINE~~
WILSON McCOY 5-26
BETWEEN TWO ARMIES~ HMM~~ THE WATER'S COLD, BUT THIS SPOT'S GETTING HOTTER BY THE MINUTE!
AS TROOPS SCRAMBLE ALONG THE RIVER BANKS~~
ORDERS ARE~ TO KEEP EVEN WITH HIM~ BUT NO SHOOTING!
~AS PLANES FLY LOW AND TANKS MASS IN NEAR-BY FIELDS~~
THE PHANTOM PADDLES ON CALMLY WITH GWENA~~
WHERE DO YOU~ BLUB~ THINK YOU'RE GOING~ ~BLUB~ WITH ME~~?
TIME WILL TELL, PRINCESS~~
WILSON McCOY 5-27
TWO ARMIES~ AND WE CAN'T CATCH ONE MAN AND A GIRL!
HE CAN'T GO MUCH FARTHER! THERE'S A WATERFALL AHEAD OF HIM!
A FEW MILES BELOW THE BRIDGE~ A ROARING WATER-FALL~~
CURRENT'S SWIFT. NO PLACE TO GO FROM HERE, BUT OVER THE FALLS~~
YOU'LL ~BLUB~ SUFFER FOR THIS ~ BLUB~~
HE'S STOPPED. HE CAN'T GO ANY FARTHER BECAUSE OF THE FALLS!
GOOD! SEND THE MEN INTO THE RIVER AFTER HIM!
WILSON McCOY 5-28
NOW~ BLUB~ THEY'VE GOT YOU~~!

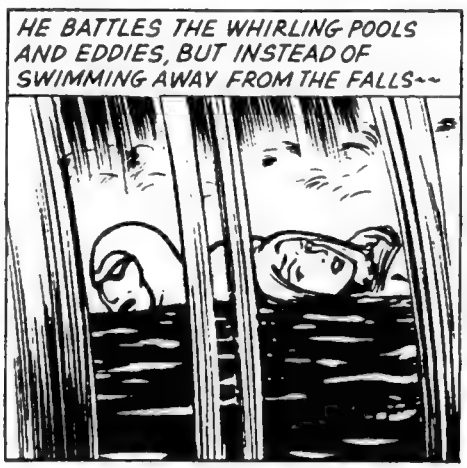
FIGHTING HIS WAY OUT OF THE TRAP, THE PHANTOM GOES OVER THE FALLS WITH GWENA--

THE SOLDIERS, SENT AFTER HIM, SWIM OUT OF THE STRONG RIVER CURRENT, BACK TO THE BANKS--

HE DID IT! HE'S MAD-- AND SHE'S GONE!
BUT THE STRANGER IS FAR FROM MAD-- HIS PLAN MAY WORK.

--AS THEY MAKE THE BREATH-TAKING PLUNGE--
GOT TO--MISS THOSE ROCKS DOWN THERE--
WILSON McCOY 5-30

THE PHANTOM SWERVES IN THE AIR- THEY JUST MISS THE JAGGED BOULDERS-


HE BATTLES THE WHIRLING POOLS AND EDDIES, BUT INSTEAD OF SWIMMING AWAY FROM THE FALLS--

-CLIMBS RIGHT BACK UNDER THEM

-ONTO A LEDGE BEHIND THE FALLS!
MADE IT! SORRY TO DRAG YOU THRU THIS, PRINCESS, BUT IF WE CAN STOP THE WAR, IT'S WORTH IT!
WILSON McCOY 5-31

A PLANE FLIES LOW NEAR THE WATER-FALL--

THEY SURVIVED THE PLUNGE! I SAW HIM TAKE HER BEHIND THE FALLS - THERE MUST BE--

-A LEDGE BEHIND THE FALLS. THAT IS ALL.

YOU MEAN THEY'RE ALIVE?
YEP! BOYS, IF WE CAPTURE THAT MASKED MAN FOR GANT AND JORGE, WE CAN WRITE OUR OWN TICKET!
WILSON McCOY 6-1

YEP, IF WE CAPTURE THAT GUY, WE'LL ALL GET PROMOTIONS.
PROMOTIONS? HOW ABOUT A DISCHARGE?

LISTEN, WISE GUY, JUST ~~ HEY ~ LOOK OUT!!!

THE SQUAD SCRAMBLES OUT OF THE WAY ~~ TWO ANIMALS CHARGE DOWN THE SLOPE ~~

~ AND FOLLOWING A PIERCING WHISTLE, DISAPPEAR BEHIND THE FALLS!
WILSON McCOY 6-2

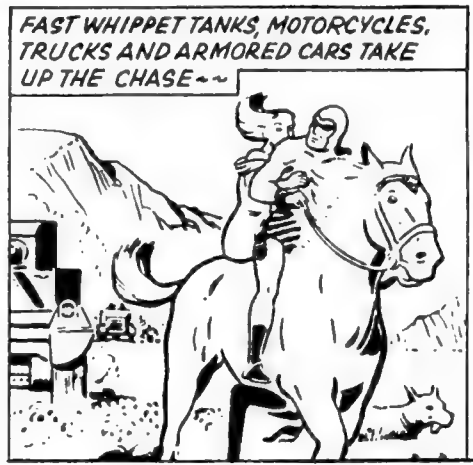
THE HORSE AND THAT WOLF ~ WENT DOWN THERE BEHIND THE FALLS. THAT'S WHERE HE IS ~~
HORSE ~~ WOLF ~~ IT'S ALL CRAZY ~~

CRAZY OR NOT, WE GOTTA GET HIM! NO GUNFIRE! MIGHT HURT THE PRINCESS. GOTTA TAKE HIM ALIVE!

THEN, AS THE SOLDIERS CAUTIOUSLY APPROACH THE LEDGE BEHIND THE WATERY CURTAIN ~~
WILSON McCOY 6-3

THERE THEY GO!!

HERO RUNS LIKE THE WIND AS WATCHING PLANES BUZZ LOW OVER THEM ~~


FAST WHIPPET TANKS, MOTORCYCLES, TRUCKS AND ARMORED CARS TAKE UP THE CHASE ~~

WITH TWO ARMIES ON HIS HEELS, THE PHANTOM RACES FOR THE JUNGLE
IF I MAKE THIS, IT'LL BE SOMETHING TO TELL MY GRANDCHILDREN - IF I EVER HAVE ANY.
WILSON McCOY 6-4

THE ARMORED UNITS PURSUING THE PHANTOM ARE STOPPED BY THE JUNGLE THICKNESS~~

HE IS A BANDIT! HOLDING ME FOR RANSOM~IF I CAN ONLY ESCAPE~THE WOODS ARE THICK~I CAN HIDE~~

SHE SUDDENLY SPRINTS AWAY~HE WATCHES, SMILING~~
WHY, HE'S NOT EVEN FOLLOWING ME~

OH!
WILSON McCOY 6-6

CHANGE YOUR MIND ABOUT RUNNING AWAY, PRINCESS?
THERE ARE ~~SAVAGES!

SAVAGES? WHERE?
ALL ABOUT US! HEAD-HUNTERS, CANNIBALS~I RECOGNIZED THEM FROM PICTURES. THERE~!

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DON'T WORRY. THEY'VE ALL GIVEN UP THEIR OLD HABITS. THAT IS, ALMOST ALL OF THEM HAVE.
ALMOST ALL?
WAIT FOR ME!
WILSON McCOY 6-7
WORLD RIGHTS RESERVED

A HORSE~LED BY THAT WOLF! AND THIS MAN~IN HIS STRANGE COSTUME~~! IS THIS A NIGHTMARE?

ALSO, STRANGELY, ALL ALONG THE WAY, NATIVES APPEAR IN THE BUSHES, BOWING RESPECTFULLY~~
WHY, THEY RECOGNIZE ME! THEY KNOW I'M PRINCESS GWENA!

WHY~THEY'RE NOT BOWING TO ME~~ BUT TO HIM! WHO CAN HE BE?
WILSON McCOY 6-8

WHERE ARE YOU TAKING ME?
WHERE YOU'LL BE SAFE, PRINCESS. THIS HAS BEEN ROUGH ON YOU. I'M SORRY

IT WAS THE ONLY WAY I COULD HALT THE WAR BETWEEN JORGE AND GANT. NOW THEY'LL WORRY ABOUT ME INSTEAD OF EACH OTHER
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LISTENING TO HIM, GWENA LOSES HER FEAR
HE'S NOT SO FEROCIOUS. HE SOUNDS LIKE A CULTIVATED MAN, SUCH AS I'VE KNOWN AT COURT
WILSON McCOY 6-9

AND BECOMES AGAIN THE ARROGANT PRINCESS.
WHATEVER YOUR REASONS, I DEMAND THAT YOU RETURN ME TO FATHER'S PALACE AT ONCE!

AS THE SPOILED GWENA ACTS UP
I AM PRINCESS GWENA! HOW DARE YOU DRAG ME THRU THESE WRETCHED WOODS! I REFUSE TO TAKE ANOTHER STEP!

IF YOU KNOW WHAT'S GOOD FOR YOU, YOU'LL TAKE ME HOME AT ONCE! THAT IS A ROYAL COMMAND! DO YOU HEAR ME?

HIS VOICE IS SOFT, BUT FILLED WITH SUCH DEADLY AUTHORITY THAT IT MAKES HER SHIVER.
QUIET, GIRL. YOU WILL COME WITH ME!
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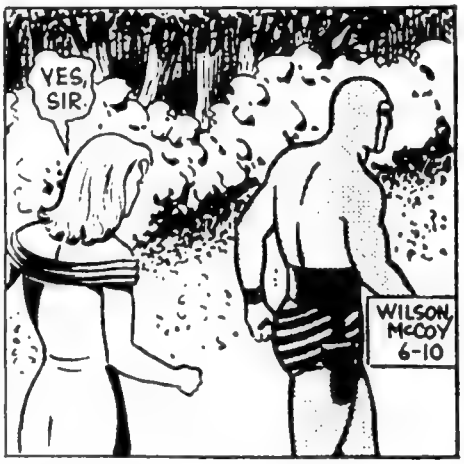
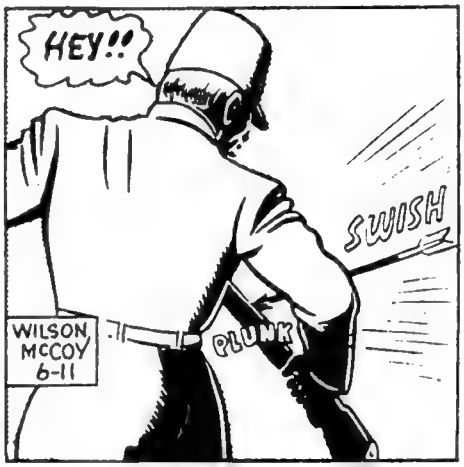

YES, SIR.
WILSON McCOY 6-10

IT SEEMS OUR ARMOR CAN'T ENTER THE WOODS WITHOUT BLASTING.
THAT MIGHT HARM GWENA. SEND IN INFANTRY.

A COMBINED COLUMN OF GANT'S MEN AND JORGE'S MEN STARTS INTO THE JUNGLE. THEN


HEY!!
SWISH
PLUNK
WILSON McCOY 6-11

POISON ARROW! PYGMIES! WHERE ARE THEY?
ALL AROUND US, I GUESS (GULP) BUT YOU CAN'T SEE 'EM!

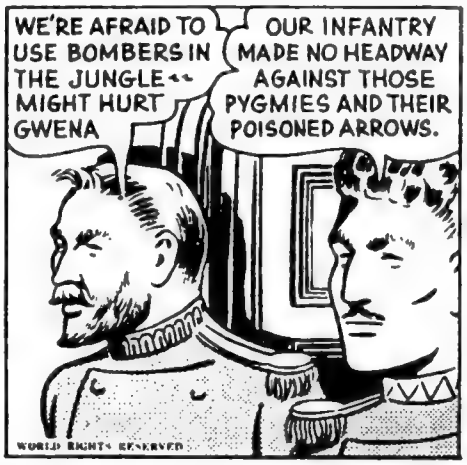
THE STORY SO FAR:
TROUBLE STARTS IN PATHIA WHEN KING PATER'S FLIRTATIOUS DAUGHTER GWENA CAN'T DECIDE BETWEEN BARON GANT AND DUKE JORGE

AS THE NOBLES PREPARE TO FIGHT, THE PHANTOM WORRIES THAT WAR WILL SPILL INTO THE JUNGLE.

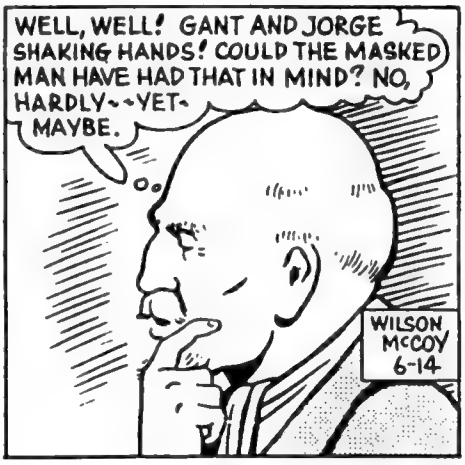
GANT SUDDENLY BREAKS THE DEAD-LOCK BY CARRYING GWENA AWAY-- WITH JORGE IN HOT PURSUIT--
WILSON McCOY 6-13

THE PHANTOM, IN A DARING MOVE TO HALT THE WAR, KIDNAPS GWENA FROM GANT, TAKING HER TO THE DEEP WOODS.
YOU ARE THE PHANTOM

I CAN'T BELIEVE THAT ONE MAN DEFIED BOTH YOUR ARMIES AND KIDNAPED MY DAUGHTER! WHO WAS HE?
NO ONE KNOWS.


WE'RE AFRAID TO USE BOMBERS IN THE JUNGLE-- MIGHT HURT GWENA
OUR INFANTRY MADE NO HEADWAY AGAINST THOSE PYGMIES AND THEIR POISONED ARROWS.
WORLD RIGHTS RESERVED

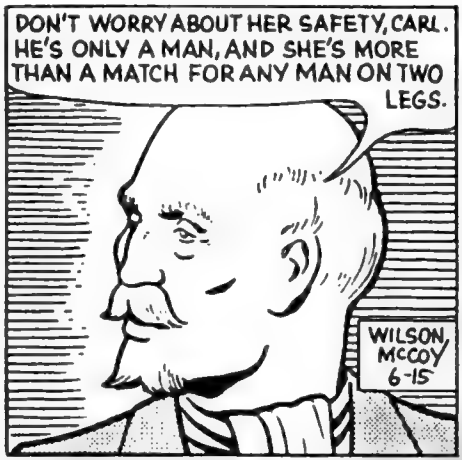
IT'S AGREED, GANT, THAT THERE'S A TRUCE BETWEEN US UNTIL GWENA IS RETURNED
DEFINITELY, JORGE. WE MUST FIND HER!


WELL, WELL! GANT AND JORGE SHAKING HANDS! COULD THE MASKED MAN HAVE HAD THAT IN MIND? NO, HARDLY--YET- MAYBE.
WILSON McCOY 6-14

WHAT ARE WE DOING ABOUT GETTING PRINCESS GWENA BACK, EXCELLENCY?
MEDITATING, MAJOR CARL.

THAT MASKED BANDIT-WHO KIDNAPPED HER. THINK OF THE DARING OF THE MAN-STEALING HER AWAY LIKE THAT--
WORLD RIGHTS RESERVED

-RIGHT UNDER THE NOSES OF THE COMBINED ARMIES OF JORGE AND GANT. IT WAS WONDERFUL!
WONDERFUL?!! EXCELLENCY, SHOULDN'T YOU BE THINKING OF YOUR DAUGHTER GWENA?


DON'T WORRY ABOUT HER SAFETY, CARL. HE'S ONLY A MAN, AND SHE'S MORE THAN A MATCH FOR ANY MAN ON TWO LEGS.
WILSON, McCOY 6-15

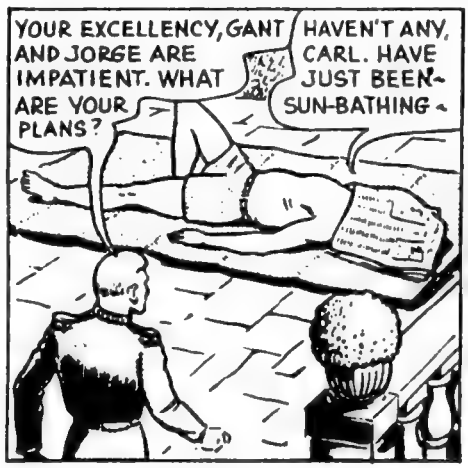
THE PHANTOM! I'VE HEARD YOUR NAME EVER SINCE I WAS A LITTLE GIRL. YET~ YOU DON'T SEEM OLD. I'VE ALWAYS THOUGHT OF YOU AS ~WELL~~

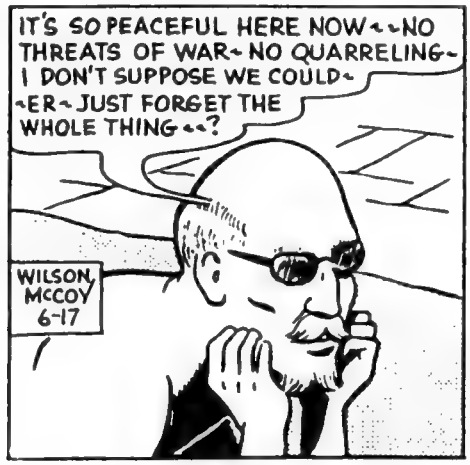
~~LIKE JACK FROST~OR THE SAND-MAN. I STILL CAN'T BELIEVE YOU'RE REAL. MAY I PINCH YOU?

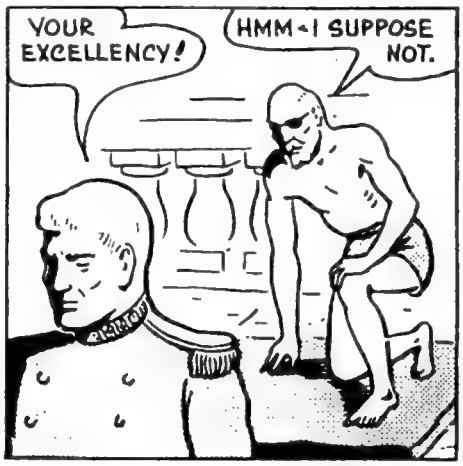
SATISFIED?
YES, YOU'RE REAL. THANK YOU.

VERY REAL! OUUU ~ WHAT MUSCLES!
WILSON McCOY 6-16

MAJOR CARL, DUKE JORGE AND I AWAIT THE KING'S PLAN TO FIND PRINCESS GWENA.
YES, BARON GANT.


YOUR EXCELLENCY, GANT AND JORGE ARE IMPATIENT. WHAT ARE YOUR PLANS?
HAVEN'T ANY, CARL. HAVE JUST BEEN~ SUN-BATHING ~


IT'S SO PEACEFUL HERE NOW~~NO THREATS OF WAR~ NO QUARRELING~ I DON'T SUPPOSE WE COULD~ ~ER~ JUST FORGET THE WHOLE THING~~?
WILSON McCOY 6-17


YOUR EXCELLENCY!
HMM~I SUPPOSE NOT.

GWENA MAY BE ANYWHERE IN A THOUSAND MILES OF JUNGLE WITH THIS MASKED BANDIT. NOW, NO MAN WOULD RISK HIS LIFE~~

~TO KIDNAP A KING'S DAUGHTER, UNLESS HE WANTED A KING'S RANSOM FOR HER RETURN. I BELIEVE WE'LL RECEIVE A RANSOM NOTE SOON.

AT THAT MOMENT, OUTSIDE THE PALACE WALL~AN ARROW BEARING A NOTE IS FIRED.
WILSON McCOY 6-18

KING PATER. YOUR DAUGHTER IS SAFE WITH ME. SEND YOUR REPRESENTATIVE TO JUNGLE TO SEE ME.
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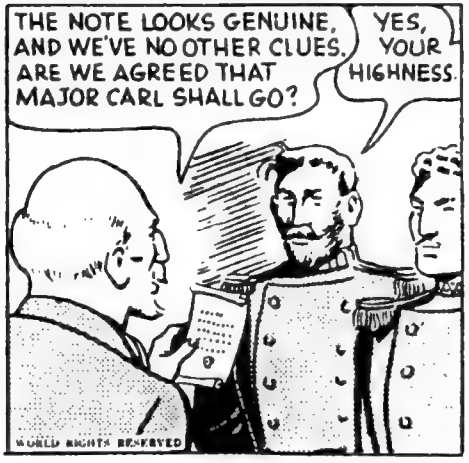
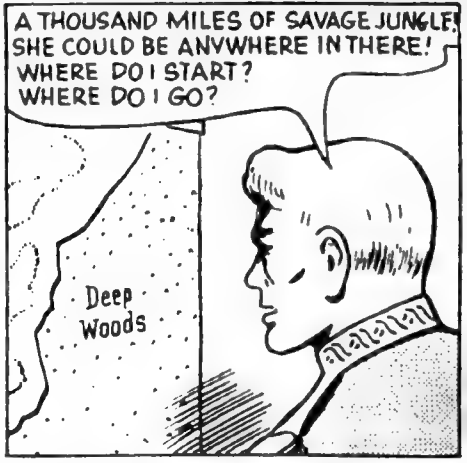

THE NOTE LOOKS GENUINE, AND WE'VE NO OTHER CLUES. ARE WE AGREED THAT MAJOR CARL SHALL GO?
YES, YOUR HIGHNESS.
WORLD RIGHTS RESERVED


A THOUSAND MILES OF SAVAGE JUNGLE! SHE COULD BE ANYWHERE IN THERE! WHERE DO I START? WHERE DO I GO?
Deep Woods

HOW'D YOU SAY I'D FIND HIM, THE PHANTOM?
ME SAY YOU NOT FIND HIM! HIM FIND YOU! JUST GO.
WILSON McCOY 6-20

IT MAY BE AN AMBUSH. WE'LL SEND A SQUAD WITH YOU. BRING GWENA BACK SAFELY... TO ME.
THE PYGMY SAYS HE CAN LEAD YOU THRU THE NATIVE LINES. BRING HER BACK TO ME.
YES, SIR. YES, SIR.
COPR. 1949, KING FEATURES SYNDICATE, Inc. WORLD RIGHTS RESERVED.

IT'S SO PEACEFUL NOW. WHEN SHE COMES BACK, THAT BICKERING BETWEEN JORGE AND GANT WILL START ALL OVER AGAIN...

GOOD LUCK, MAJOR CARL. WHEN YOU FIND HER... DON'T... ER... BE IN TOO MUCH OF A HURRY TO RETURN...
SIRE!
WILSON McCOY 6-21

HOW ARE YOU DOING WITH YOUR LAUNDRY, GWENA?
AWFUL! I'VE BROKEN MY NAILS... AND TORN A HOLE IN MY DRESS... (SOB)...

THAT'S TOO BAD. ONE OF THE WOMEN'LL GIVE YOU A NEEDLE AND THREAD.
BUT I CAN'T SEW! I'VE NEVER SEWN IN MY LIFE! I'M A ROYAL PRINCESS...

I DEMAND THAT YOU RESPECT MY RANK! I DEMAND THAT YOU HAVE THIS DRESS REPAIRED! I DEMAND...
HMM...
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OUCH! ##!! * 666!!
WILSON McCOY 6-22
WORLD RIGHTS RESERVED

POOR GIRL. SHE MUST BE FRANTIC.
AS MAJOR CARL AND HIS SQUAD GO TO FIND GWENA.

TIME FOR CHOW, GWENA. I THINK YOU SAID YOU DIDN'T WANT ANYTHING.

I COULD EAT~A LITTLE. BUT THERE AREN'T ANY PLATES~OR KNIVES~OR FORKS~~
NOT HERE, I'M AFRAID.

UMM! THIS, I LIKE! DADDY SHOULD SEE ME NOW!
WILSON McCOY 6-23

GWENA IN THE DEEP WOODS.

GWENA, I'M SORRY TO KEEP YOU HERE. YOU KNOW IT'S ONLY TO KEEP THEM FROM FIGHTING A WAR OVER YOU. YOU'LL GO HOME SOON

HOME? I'M IN NO HURRY TO GO. I LIKE IT HERE.
WILSON McCOY 6-24

YOU DON'T WANT TO GO HOME? THINK HOW YOUR DAD'S WORRYING ABOUT YOU!
DAD KNOWS I CAN TAKE CARE OF MYSELF.

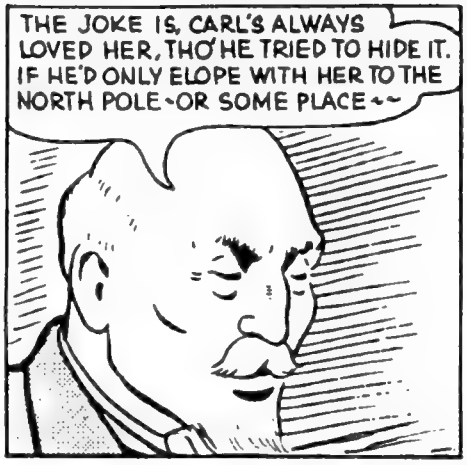
I LOVE IT HERE! SUCH A CAREFREE, EASY LIFE! NO HURRY, NO FUSS~AND~FEATHERS~~~

~AND I LIKE SEEING YOU AND TALKING TO YOU.
HMM~TIME FOR SLEEP, GWENA. THE PYGMIES HAVE BUILT YOU A SHELTER. GOOD NIGHT.

NO WONDER THEY STARTED A WAR OVER HER! SHE'S A PINT-SIZED LOAD OF ROYAL TROUBLE~~!
WILSON, McCOY 6-25

ANY NEWS FROM MAJOR CARL, YOUR HIGHNESS?
NOT YET. BE PATIENT. I'M CERTAIN (SIGH)~~ THAT HE'LL BRING HER BACK.

THEN THE FIGHTING WILL START AGAIN~ONE OF THEM WILL WIN HER~I'LL PROBABLY LOSE MY CROWN~~


THE JOKE IS, CARL'S ALWAYS LOVED HER, THO' HE TRIED TO HIDE IT. IF HE'D ONLY ELOPE WITH HER TO THE NORTH POLE~OR SOME PLACE~~

NO SUCH LUCK. HE'LL RETURN DUTIFULLY WITH HER~~LIKE A BRAVE HERO~~AND THE TROUBLE'LL START ALL OVER AGAIN!
WILSON McCOY 6-27

AS MAJOR CARL, SEARCHING FOR GWENA, REACHES THE JUNGLE'S EDGE WITH HIS MEN~~

~THEY ARE SUDDENLY BLOCKED BY THE POISONED ARROWS OF THE PYGMY BANDAR.

PHANTOM WANTS TO SEE HIM. I THINK HE FIGGERS HE'LL BEAT UP PHANTOM AND BE A HERO.
A DREAMER. HE'LL WAKE UP SOON.
WILSON McCOY 6-28

THEM SAY~YOU CAN PASS~BUT SAY, BE CAREFUL.
I WILL. (IGNORANT SAVAGES. IF THEY ONLY KNEW WHAT I PLAN TO DO)

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WORLD RIGHTS RESERVED

THE EMISSARY FROM THE KING APPROACHES, O GHOST WHO WALKS. HE HAS ARMED SOLDIERS WITH HIM.
THANK YOU, TANTO.
WILSON McCOY 6-29

MAJOR CARL WILL BE HERE SOON, GWENA. I THINK HE PLANS TO RESCUE YOU.
WHY CAN'T THEY LEAVE ME ALONE? I DON'T WANT TO BE RESCUED!

AS MAJOR CARL RIDES THRU THE JUNGLE--
THE KING EXPECTS ME TO BARGAIN AND DICKER WITH THIS MASKED FELLOW FOR GWENA!

--HE DAYDREAMS--

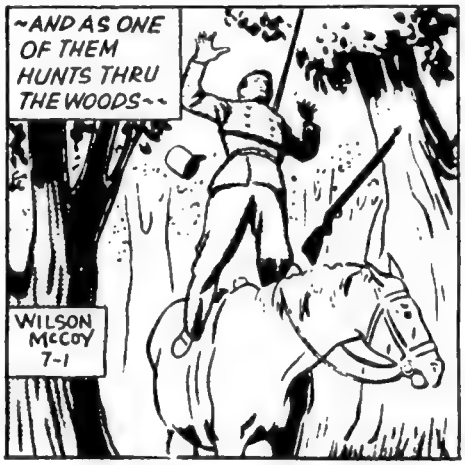
~AND DAYDREAMS ~UNTIL--

MAJOR! THAT PYGMY GUIDE'S GONE! DISAPPEARED!
WHAT? THEN HOW'LL WE FIND --THE PHANTOM?
WILSON McCOY 6-30

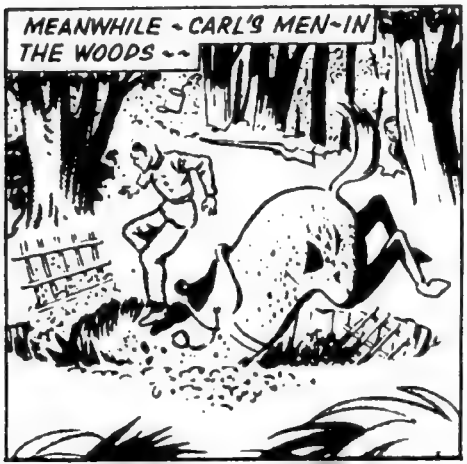
HOW COULD THAT PYGMY GUIDE JUST~ DISAPPEAR?
WE WERE BEHIND YOU, SIR. WE ~ER~ FIGURED YOU WERE WATCHIN' HIM.

HUH! I GUESS I WAS ~WOOL-GATHERING. HE CAN'T BE FAR. SCATTER THE SQUAD. SEARCH IN ALL DIRECTIONS.

~THE MOUNTED SQUAD SCATTERS--


~AND AS ONE OF THEM HUNTS THRU THE WOODS--
WILSON McCOY 7-1

WHAT HAPPENED TO THAT PYGMY GUIDE? HE WAS SUPPOSED TO LEAD US TO THE PHANTOM. WELL~THE MEN'LL FIND HIM.


MEANWHILE ~CARL'S MEN~IN THE WOODS--

WHAT'S HAPPENED TO ALL MY MEN?...HELLO! HELLO! WHERE ARE YOU?
WILSON McCOY 7-2

MAJOR CARL, PLANNING TO CAPTURE THE PHANTOM, HAS A CHANGE OF PLAN AS THE PYGMIES NAB HIM!

SORRY TO TREAT YOU LIKE THIS, MAJOR. BUT IT WAS FOR YOUR OWN GOOD.
MY OWN GOOD-- (SPUTTER, SPUTTER)

YOU MIGHT HAVE BEEN RASH AND TRIED TO ATTACK THIS PLACE - TO "SAVE" GWENA. THESE WOODS ARE FULL OF PYGMIES - WITH POISON ARROWS--
WILSON McCOY 7-4
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--THEY SHOOT FIRST AND TALK AFTERWARDS. YOU AND YOUR SQUAD WOULD BE DEAD BY NOW.
I SEE WHAT YOU MEAN.
WORLD RIGHTS RESERVED

HE SAID I COULD UNTIE YOU NOW, CARL.
AWFUL NICE OF HIM! GWENA--ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?

GWENA--IF HE'S HARMED YOU--
RELAX, CARL. HE'S HARDLY PAID ANY ATTENTION TO ME--

WE'LL LEAVE HERE AT ONCE. HE WON'T DARE TO STOP US!
HE HAS A WAY OF DARING ANYTHING-

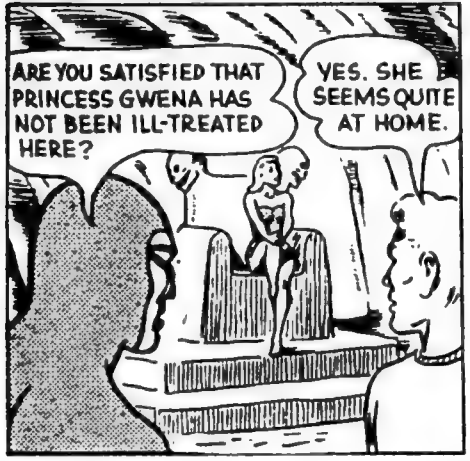
SAY, WHO DOES THAT MASKED BANDIT THINK HE IS?
YOU'LL FIND OUT.
WILSON McCOY 7-5

HE CAN'T KEEP ME WAITING LIKE THIS! I'M GOING TO SEE HIM NOW!
I'D WAIT, IF I WERE YOU, CARL.

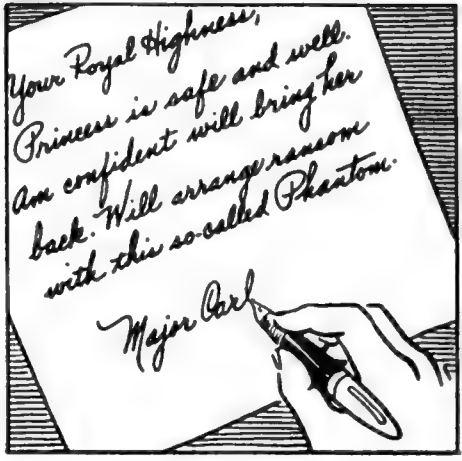
TELL HIM THAT I'M THE KING'S AMBASSADOR. HE MUST SEE ME AT ONCE!
"MUST"? ME TELL HIM.

I'M BUSY NOW. YOU WILL WAIT.
ER-YES-- OF COURSE, SIR.

I SEE WHAT YOU MEAN.
WILSON McCOY 7-6


ARE YOU SATISFIED THAT PRINCESS GWENA HAS NOT BEEN ILL-TREATED HERE?
YES. SHE SEEMS QUITE AT HOME.

THEN WRITE A NOTE TO THE KING THAT YOU ARE BOTH SAFE.
YES, SIR.
WHY DO I KEEP CALLING HIM "SIR"?


Your Royal Highness,
Princess is safe and well.
Am confident will bring her
back. Will arrange ransom
with this so-called Phantom.
Major Carl

DELIVER THIS NOTE BY RELAY RUNNERS TO THE KING'S PALACE IN PATHIA.
NOW, SIR, ABOUT THE RANSOM--
WILSON McCOY 7-7

MAJOR CARL, I DIDN'T BRING GWENA HERE FOR RANSOM. I DID IT TO HALT THE WAR.
WHAT?!

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF SHE RETURNS WITH YOU?
WHY-ER-THERE'LL BE SOME TROUBLE BETWEEN BARON GANT AND DUKE JORGE-- OVER HER--
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EXACTLY. IN OTHER WORDS, WAR! SHE'LL REMAIN HERE UNTIL THEY REACH A PEACEFUL SOLUTION.
AM I TO REPORT THAT TO THE KING?
WORLD RIGHTS RESERVED

NO. YOU KNOW THE WAY HERE. YOU MUST REMAIN, TOO.
BUT!
NOW-- WHO'LL THEY SEND AFTER YOU?
WILSON McCOY 7-8

I'M ALL MIXED UP. HE WANTS NO RANSOM- WE CAN'T LEAVE -- JUST WHO IS HE?
YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND, CARL. HE'S THE PHANTOM--
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HE'S LIKE AN EMPEROR IN THIS JUNGLE! THEY SAY HE'S FOUR CENTURIES OLD- THAT'S JUST SILLY NATIVE TALK-- BUT WHAT A MAN!

NEVER MIND HIM. I REMEMBER THE WAY. TONIGHT WE'LL ESCAPE--
OH, NO, WE WON'T!

WON'T? WHY NOT?
BECAUSE I DON'T WANT TO GO. I LIKE IT HERE!
WILSON McCOY 7-9

YOU'VE LEARNED TO COOK AND SEW--BECAUSE YOU'RE IN LOVE WITH THIS-- PHANTOM.
I SUPPOSE SO, CARL. HE DOESN'T KNOW IT~YET.

GWENA, **DEAR**~YOU PROMISED TO MARRY **TWO** MEN ~BARON GANT AND COUNT JORGE! THEY ALMOST STARTED A WAR OVER YOU~ AND WOULD HAVE --

~IF THE PHANTOM HADN'T RUN OFF WITH YOU~TO STOP IT! NOW YOU THINK YOU'RE IN LOVE WITH **HIM**?
I DON'T THINK. I **KNOW**!
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OH, BROTHER-- THIS IS WONDERFUL!
YES, ISN'T IT? SO-O-O-O ROMANTIC!
WILSON McCOY 7-11

GWENA, WE GREW UP TOGETHER. YOU **CAN'T** LOVE THIS~NAMELESS PHANTOM.
I CAN~AND DO! HE'S THE ONLY MAN I'VE EVER KNOWN---

~WHOM I CAN'T TWIST AROUND MY LITTLE FINGER! HE DARED TWO ARMIES TO GET ME! HE'S BRAVE AND STRONG~ AND WONDERFUL.

I'M A ROYAL PRINCESS~BUT HE'S AN EMPEROR HERE! HOW DO I LOOK ON HIS THRONE?
QUITE AT HOME

NO WONDER YOUR FATHER DOESN'T WORRY ABOUT YOU!
WHY SHOULD HE? I'M SO-O-O-O HAPPY!
WILSON McCOY 7-12

MESSAGE (PUFF) FOR KING~ FROM (PUFF) **DEEP WOODS**

IT'S FROM MAJOR CARL! HE'S FOUND THE PHANTOM AND GWENA!
AT LAST!

WILSON McCOY 7-13

Your Royal Highness, Princess is safe and well. Am confident will bring her back. Will arrange ransom with this so called Phantom.

Major Carl.

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WELL~ALL WE HAVE TO DO IS WAIT UNTIL~(SIGH~) HE BRINGS HER BACK.
TO ME.
TO ME.
WORLD RIGHTS RESERVED.

YOUR SQUAD'S BEEN BROUGHT IN. YOU'RE FREE TO TALK TO THEM. ADVISE THEM NOT TO ATTEMPT AN ESCAPE.

I SHOULD TELL HIM ABOUT GWENA'S SILLY NOTION OF BEING IN LOVE WITH HIM~BUT MAYBE HE WON'T THINK IT'S SILLY!

SO THOSE BLASTED PYGMIES GOT YOU TOO, SIR!
YES, WE'RE ALL IN THE SAME BOAT. BUT NO BONES BROKEN, YET.
WILSON McCOY 7-14

WHEN WILL WE GET OUT OF HERE?
DON'T ASK ME. ASK HIM.

I WANT TO TALK TO YOU ABOUT GWENA.
HMM--I'M SORRY SHE'S UNHAPPY HERE, CARL.

UNHAPPY? SHE LOVES IT HERE! AND WHAT'S MORE~SHE LOVES YOU!
NONSENSE!

IS IT? THAT'S NOT ALL! SHE INTENDS TO STAY~AND MARRY YOU!
HEY~WHERE DID YOU GET THAT WILD IDEA?
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IF THAT'S WHAT'S WORRYING YOU, FORGET IT!
FORGET IT? HE DOESN'T KNOW GWENA!
WILSON McCOY 7-15
WORLD RIGHTS RESERVED

I TOLD THE PHANTOM YOU THOUGHT YOU WERE IN LOVE WITH HIM.
CARL--YOU DIDN'T!

ALSO, THAT YOU INTENDED TO STAY HERE AND MARRY HIM!
CARL, YOU FOOL! HOW COULD YOU!? HOW CAN I FACE HIM NOW!?

I'LL BE ASHAMED TO EVEN LOOK AT HIM--WHAT DID HE SAY?
HE SAID IT WAS A FOOLISH, WILD IDEA.

MAYBE, AFTER A WHILE, HE WON'T THINK IT'S SO FOOLISH!
WILSON McCOY 7-16

AS LONG AS CARL SPILLED THE BEANS, I MAY AS WELL BE HONEST ABOUT IT--
NOW, GWENA..

I LOVE YOU AND WANT TO MARRY YOU. WHAT DID YOU SAY?
I SAID-- GULP--

MY DEAR GIRL, YOU CAN'T BE SERIOUS. YOU DON'T EVEN KNOW ME. YOUR FATHER IS A KING---
FOR ONCE IN HIS LIFE, THE PHANTOM IS REALLY BAFFLED.
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WHAT DID SHE SAY TO HIM? HE LOOKS LIKE HE'S BEEN HIT OVER THE HEAD WITH A HAMMER!
WILSON McCOY 7-18

GWENA, BE SENSIBLE. YOU CAN'T MARRY ME- YOU'RE~
--A ROYAL PRINCESS. I KNOW. WHAT DOES THAT MATTER?

I NEVER REALLY LOVED GANT OR JORGE. I PROMISED TO MARRY BOTH OF THEM BECAUSE-- I WAS BORED.

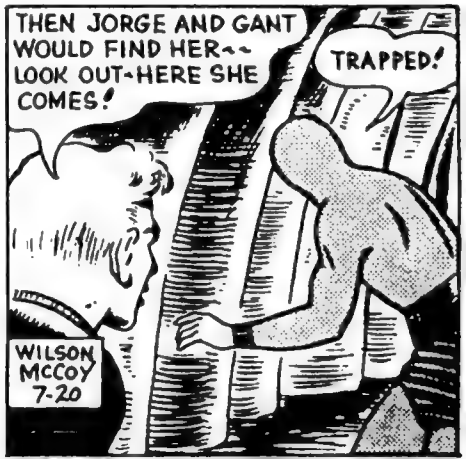
NO MATTER WHICH OF THEM I'D MARRY, THE OTHER WOULD FIGHT. IF I MARRY YOU, THEY'VE NOTHING TO FIGHT ABOUT--
WILSON McCOY 7-19

DON'T YOU SEE? IT'S A PERFECT SOLUTION! AND SO SIMPLE!
YES, ISN'T IT?

GWENA ASKED YOU TO MARRY HER?
ASKED ME? SHE DEMANDED IT!
COPR. 1949 KING FEATURES SYNDICATE, Inc.

HO-HO-HO-- THAT'S WONDERFUL!
IT'S NOT FUNNY TO ME. I DON'T WANT TO HURT HER FEELINGS.
WORLD RIGHTS RESERVED

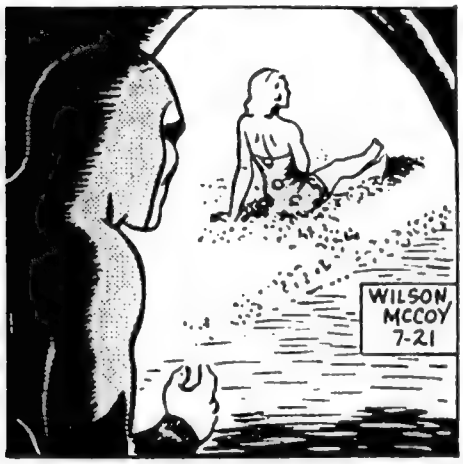
SHE'S A ROYAL PRINCESS USED TO HAVING HER OWN WAY.
IF YOU COULD ONLY TAKE HER AWAY~

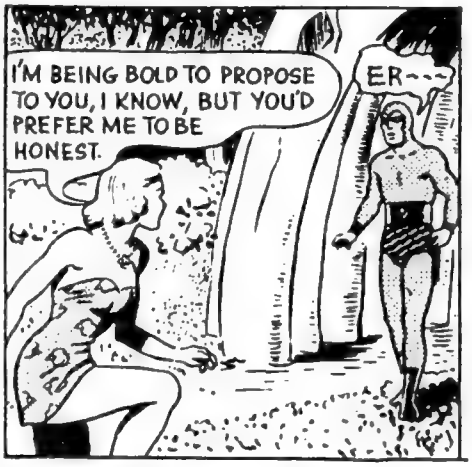

THEN JORGE AND GANT WOULD FIND HER-- LOOK OUT-HERE SHE COMES!
TRAPPED!
WILSON McCOY 7-20

OOOH, THAT MAN!

HERE I AM, TRAPPED INSIDE MY OWN CAVE BY THAT GIRL. WHAT'LL I DO?
YOU COULD REFUSE HER. JUST SAY "NO."

I'D RATHER FACE A MAD ELEPHANT.
YOU'VE GOT TO DO IT! COURAGE!


WILSON McCOY 7-21


I'M BEING BOLD TO PROPOSE TO YOU, I KNOW, BUT YOU'D PREFER ME TO BE HONEST.
ER---

DON'T BACK AWAY FROM ME. I WON'T EAT YOU!
GWENA, YOU'VE GOT ME STOPPED. I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO SAY.

DON'T KNOW WHAT TO SAY? AFTER I'VE PROPOSED TO YOU? WITH KINGS AND DUKES DYING TO MARRY ME-- ARE YOU REFUSING ME?

~HOW DARE YOU!?
GULP.
WILSON McCOY 7-22

YOU REFUSED HER! WELL, THAT'S THAT!
IT WAS WORSE THAN FACING A MAD ELEPHANT.

I HEARD THAT ~HE TURNED YOU DOWN. I'M SORRY, GWENA.
SORRY? IT WAS THRILLING!

CARL, EVER SINCE I'VE BEEN GROWN UP, MEN HAVE BEEN ON THEIR KNEES TO ME-- BEGGING ME TO MARRY THEM! BUT NOT HIM!

~I KNEW HE WAS DIFFERENT, AND I LOVE HIM MORE THAN EVER!
OH, BROTHER--!
WILSON McCOY 7-23

WHEN THE PHANTOM SHOWS GWENA A PICTURE OF DIANA-
SO THIS IS YOUR GIRL- LOOKS AWFULLY SWEET- AND VERY PRETTY--
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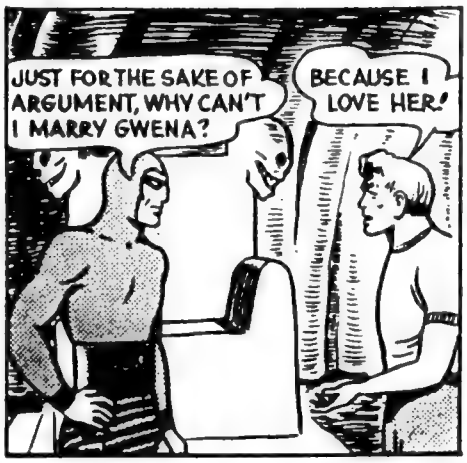
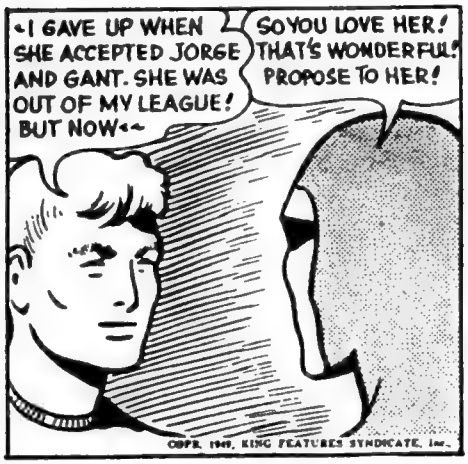
SHE'S 5,000 MILES AWAY - AND I'M HERE! I'LL MAKE YOU FORGET ABOUT HER--

IT MEANT NOTHING TO HER THAT YOU'RE IN LOVE WITH ANOTHER GIRL?
SHE TORE UP THE PICTURE. SHE SAID SHE'D MAKE ME FORGET DIANA--

I'VE TRIED EVERY POLITE WAY I KNOW TO TURN HER DOWN. SHE'S GOT ME LICKED--
LICKED? WAIT A MINUTE! YOU CAN'T MARRY HER!
WILSON McCOY 7-25


JUST FOR THE SAKE OF ARGUMENT, WHY CAN'T I MARRY GWENA?
BECAUSE I LOVE HER!

WHEN WE WERE KIDS, WE WERE SWEETHEARTS. THEN WE GREW UP. SHE WAS THE ROYAL PRINCESS, PURSUED BY EVERY BIG SHOT-- SHE FORGOT ME--
WILSON McCOY 7-26


-I GAVE UP WHEN SHE ACCEPTED JORGE AND GANT. SHE WAS OUT OF MY LEAGUE! BUT NOW--
SO YOU LOVE HER! THAT'S WONDERFUL! PROPOSE TO HER!
COPR. 1949, KING FEATURES SYNDICATE, Inc.

PROPOSE- --TO-- HER--?
OF COURSE! AT ONCE! SHE LOVES MARRIAGE PROPOSALS! SHE ALWAYS SAYS "YES"!

GWENA, I WANT TO ASK YOU SOMETHING--
WHAT, CARL--
OUCH!

STUBBED YOUR TOE. WHY MUST YOU RUN AROUND BAREFOOTED? PUT ON YOUR SHOES.
OH, NO! I'M GOING TO LIVE HERE IN THE JUNGLE--

-AND I HAVE TO TOUGHEN UP - GET USED TO THIS LIFE --OUCH--
YOU'RE NOT GOING TO LIVE IN THE JUNGLE- BECAUSE YOU'RE NOT MARRYING THE PHANTOM!

WHY NOT, MAY I ASK?
BECAUSE YOU'RE GOING (GULP) TO MARRY ME!
WILSON McCOY 7-27

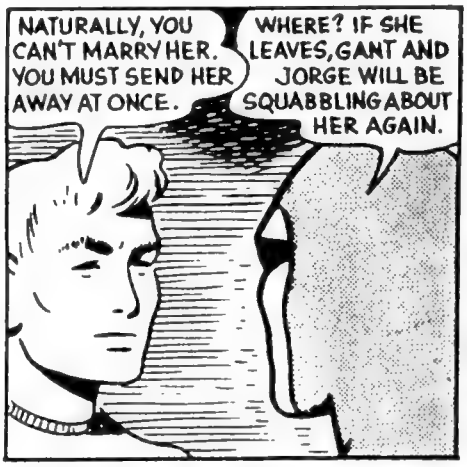
YOU WANT ME TO MARRY YOU, CARL? WHY, HOW SWEET!
PLEASE, GWENA. I'VE ALWAYS LOVED YOU~~

CARL, YOU'RE A NICE BOY. WE'VE GROWN UP TOGETHER ~~I'VE SEEN YOU ALMOST EVERY DAY OF MY LIFE~ BUT, DEAR, I LIKE ROMANCE~~

~~AND THERE'S NOTHING ROMANTIC ABOUT YOU. BUT HIM~~AHHH~~

BUT THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR ASKING ME.
NOT AT ALL.
WILSON McCOY 7-28

GWENA TURNED ME DOWN. I'M NOT THE ROMANTIC TYPE. YOU ARE.
I SEE.


NATURALLY, YOU CAN'T MARRY HER. YOU MUST SEND HER AWAY AT ONCE.
WHERE? IF SHE LEAVES, GANT AND JORGE WILL BE SQUABBLING ABOUT HER AGAIN.

THEN, IF YOU'RE KEEPING HER HERE, DOES THAT MEAN THAT YOU'VE DECIDED TO~~
EXCUSE ME, CARL.

I WAS AFRAID OF THIS! I KNEW HE COULDN'T RESIST HER FOREVER!
WILSON McCOY 7-29

IN THE DEEP WOODS~~

WHAT ARE YOU BUILDING HERE?
WIFE HOUSE~~FOR PHANTOM.

WIFE HOUSE? OH~~! OH!

CARL! CARL! HE'S DECIDED TO MARRY ME! HE'S BUILDING ME AN ENORMOUS HOUSE!
WILSON McCOY 7-30
No!

THIS -- IS THE WIFE HOUSE?
YES. PHANTOM HAS THREE HUNDRED WIVES ALREADY. ALL STAY HERE
YOU WILL BE THREE HUNDRED AND ONE!

THAT'S RIDICULOUS. HE NEVER TOLD ME -- HE WAS MARRIED --
OTHER WIVES ON TRIP. BACK SOON. THIS -- YOUR BUNK.

WHAT HAVE I GOTTEN INTO?
WILSON McCOY 8-1

I MUST SEE THE PHANTOM! HE DIDN'T TELL ME HE ALREADY HAD A WIFE -- MUCH LESS THREE HUNDRED!

YOU CANNOT SEE HIM UNTIL MARRIAGE CEREMONY.
THERE'S NOT GOING TO BE A CEREMONY! I WON'T BE WIFE 301!
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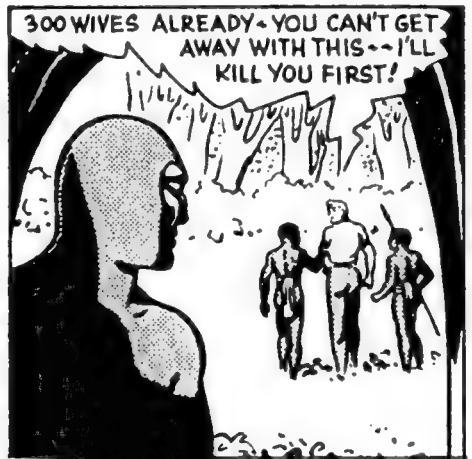
YOU NOW BELONG TO PHANTOM. YOU MAY NEVER LEAVE HERE.
NO OTHER MAN MAY EVER LOOK UPON YOU AGAIN.
WORLD RIGHTS RESERVED

THIS IS A NIGHTMARE
LET ME OUT OF HERE! LET ME OUT!
WILSON McCOY 8-2

GWENA --!
CARL, IS THAT YOU? OH, CARL, HE'S LOCKED ME IN HERE! HE ALREADY HAS 300 WIVES! HE'S A MONSTER --

WHAT IS ALL THIS? YOU DIDN'T TELL ME YOU HAD A HAREM!
QUIET, CARL. LET ME HANDLE THIS MY OWN WAY --
COPR. 1949 KING FEATURES SYNDICATE, Inc.

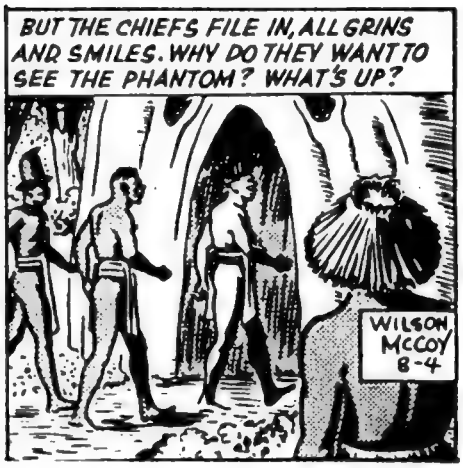

300 WIVES ALREADY - YOU CAN'T GET AWAY WITH THIS -- I'LL KILL YOU FIRST!

MY PLAN IS WORKING. IT'S A LITTLE ROUGH ON GWENA - AND CARL -- BUT WITH A GIRL LIKE HER WE CAN'T USE HALF WAY MEASURES!
WILSON McCOY 8-3

NOW I'M A PRISONER, TOO, GWENA. YOU WANTED TO MARRY HIM. LOOKS LIKE YOU CAN'T CHANGE YOUR MIND NOW!

OH, CARL, WHAT A SPOILED FOOL I'VE BEEN! I TRIED TO PLAY WITH FIRE! NOW LOOK AT ME~ONE OF 300 IN A JUNGLE HAREM!

THE JUNGLE CHIEFS APPROACH THE DEEP WOODS AND DESIRE TO SEE YOU.
LET THEM ENTER. WHAT ARE THEIR TROUBLES NOW?


BUT THE CHIEFS FILE IN, ALL GRINS AND SMILES. WHY DO THEY WANT TO SEE THE PHANTOM? WHAT'S UP?
WILSON McCOY 8-4

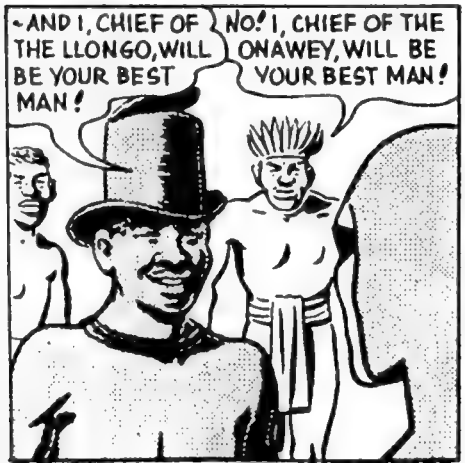
JUNGLE CHIEFS, WHY DO YOU COME TO SEE ME?
IS IT A SECRET? THE WHOLE JUNGLE KNOWS~

~YOU HAVE CAPTURED A BEAUTIFUL PRINCESS ~~
YES, BUT I HAD A GOOD REASON.

NATURALLY! THE BEST IN THE WORLD! YOU WISH TO MARRY HER.
NOW, JUST A MINUTE ~~

CONGRATULATIONS
WE ARE ALL HAPPY THAT THE PHANTOM WILL MARRY!
HEY!
WILSON McCOY 8-5

WE PLAN HUGE FESTIVALS THROUGHOUT THE JUNGLE TO CELEBRATE THE WEDDING OF THE PHANTOM.
HUH ~~?


~AND I, CHIEF OF THE LLONGO, WILL BE YOUR BEST MAN!
NO! I, CHIEF OF THE ONAWEY, WILL BE YOUR BEST MAN!

MY TRIBE IS THE RICHEST ~~!
MY TRIBE IS THE BIGGEST ~~!
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MEN, YOU'RE ALL A LITTLE PREVIOUS! THERE'S NOT GOING TO BE A WEDDING. AT LEAST, NOT MINE!
WILSON McCOY 8-6
WORLD RIGHTS RESERVED

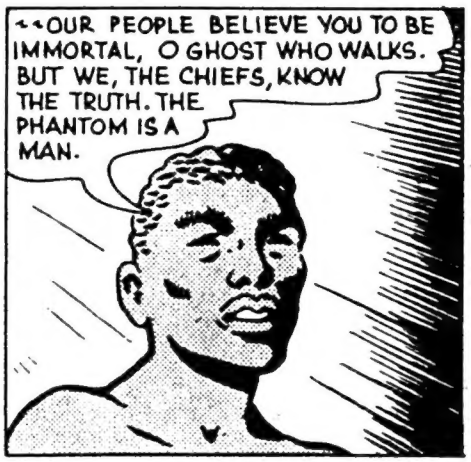
IF YOU DO NOT INTEND TO MARRY THIS PRETTY PRINCESS, WHY DID YOU CAPTURE HER?
TO STOP THAT FOOLISH WAR.

MEANWHILE, AS CARL AND GWENA ESCAPE.
SHH-- WE'LL BE AWAY FROM HERE IN A MINUTE! NO GUARDS IN SIGHT! WHAT LUCK!

THEY'VE ESCAPED TOGETHER AS YOU PLANNED, AND ARE HEADING INTO THE WOODS.
HAVE THEM FOLLOWED.
COPR. 1949, KING FEATURES SYNDICATE, Inc.

OH, CARL, I'M SO SCARED
WILSON McCOY 8-8
SHHH--

CHIEFS, I CAN'T MARRY GWENA. I DON'T LOVE HER.
THAT'S NO REASON. SHE'S A PRETTY GIRL. BESIDES--


--OUR PEOPLE BELIEVE YOU TO BE IMMORTAL, O GHOST WHO WALKS. BUT WE, THE CHIEFS, KNOW THE TRUTH. THE PHANTOM IS A MAN.

MOST OF US KNEW YOUR FATHER, THE PHANTOM BEFORE YOU.
HE TOO WAS IN NO HURRY TO MARRY. BUT THE PHANTOM LINE MUST GO ON--
COPR. 1949, KING FEATURES SYNDICATE, Inc.

--YOU MUST MARRY, AND HAVE A SON.
~GULP- GENTLEMEN, I WILL MEDITATE ON YOUR ADVICE. THE CONFERENCE IS ENDED.
WILSON McCOY 8-9

AS CARL AND GWENA MAKE THEIR ESCAPE-
OH, CARL, IT'S SO DARK- I'M AFRAID~
SHH- BE BRAVE- I'LL TAKE CARE OF YOU~

OH, CARL, YOU'RE SO BRAVE! DO YOU KNOW WHERE WE'RE GOING?
NO, JUST AWAY FROM HIM!

IMAGINE, THREE HUNDRED WIVES! AND HE HAS A GIRL IN AMERICA, TOO!
PROBABLY BUYING A TROUSSEAU AT THIS MOMENT! WON'T SHE BE SURPRISED!

WE'VE SEEN THE LAST OF HIM-- OOP!!!
WILSON McCOY 8-10

RUNNING OFF WITH MY WIFE-TO-BE, EH?
GWENA IS NOT GOING TO JOIN YOUR HAREM!

GWENA BECAME TABOO WHEN SHE ENTERED MY WIFE HOUSE. SHE WILL RETURN, AND YOU--
YEAH!

UH
SORRY, CARL, BUT IT'S ALL IN A GOOD CAUSE.
COPR. 1940, KING FEATURES SYNDICATE, Inc.

CARL! OH, YOU BRUTE, YOU BRUTE!
WILSON McCOY 8-11

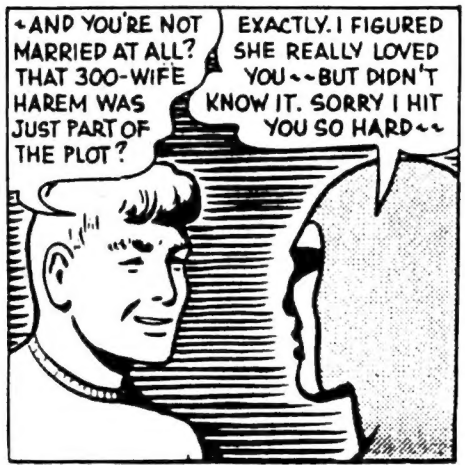
OH, CARL, YOU TRIED TO FIGHT HIM-FOR ME! I LOVE YOU, I LOVE YOU--
YOU-- DO?

YES, YES! I WILL NEVER MARRY ANYONE BUT YOU!
YOU-- WON'T--? GWENA--

DID YOU HEAR WHAT I SAID, MISTER PHANTOM?
I DID. YOU SHALL MARRY CARL AT ONCE!

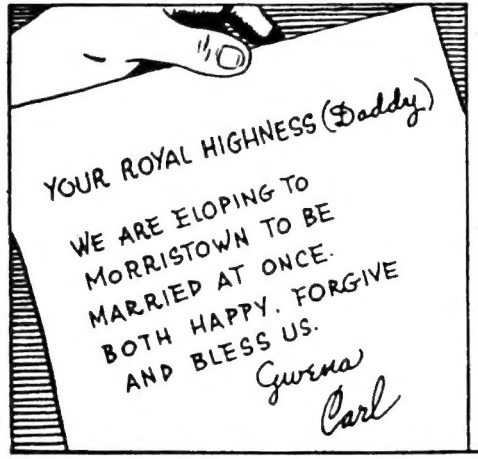
AM I DREAMING? WHAT IS THIS?
WE'LL HAVE THE CEREMONY RIGHT AWAY, BEFORE SHE HAS TIME TO CHANGE HER MIND AGAIN.
WILSON McCOY 8-12

YOU MEAN YOU PLANNED THIS WHOLE THING-- OUR ESCAPE AND ALL?
YES. IT WAS THE ONLY WAY I COULD AVOID MARRYING HER, MYSELF--


--AND YOU'RE NOT MARRIED AT ALL? THAT 300-WIFE HAREM WAS JUST PART OF THE PLOT?
EXACTLY. I FIGURED SHE REALLY LOVED YOU--BUT DIDN'T KNOW IT. SORRY I HIT YOU SO HARD--

IT WAS A PLEASURE. BUT HOW ABOUT HER DAD, AND GANT AND JORGE--
HE'LL BE DELIGHTED AND THEY'LL GET OVER IT.
FEATURES SYNDICATE, Inc.

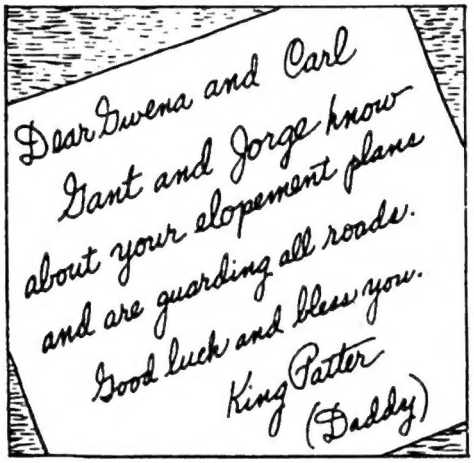
DARLING, HE DECIDED OUR LOVE'S TOO GREAT TO BE DENIED--AND HE'S GIVING YOU UP-- TO ME--
OH, CARL!
WILSON McCOY 8-13


YOUR ROYAL HIGHNESS (Daddy)
WE ARE ELOPING TO MORRISTOWN TO BE MARRIED AT ONCE. BOTH HAPPY. FORGIVE AND BLESS US.
Gwena
Carl

THEY AREN'T MARRIED YET! WE'LL STOP THEM!
COPR. 1949, KING FEATURES SYNDICATE, Inc.

TELL THAT JUNGLE MESSENGER TO WAIT. I HAVE A MESSAGE TO SEND BACK TO GWENA AND CARL. I'VE GOT TO WARN THEM.
WORLD RIGHTS RESERVED.

I HOPE THE KIDS MAKE IT! IT'LL SOLVE EVERYTHING. WHEW~WHAT IT TAKES TO GET A DAUGHTER MARRIED!
WILSON McCOY 8-15


Dear Gwena and Carl
Gant and Jorge know about your elopement plans and are guarding all roads.
Good luck and bless you.
King Patter
(Daddy)

WHY DID WE TELL THEM WHERE WE WERE GOING?
I DIDN'T DREAM THAT GANT AND JORGE'D BE THERE WHEN THE NOTE ARRIVED.

I'VE GOT TO GET THEM MARRIED BEFORE SHE CHANGES HER MIND AGAIN~OR FINDS MY HAREM ISN'T.
WILSON McCOY 8-16
COPR. 1949, KING FEATURES SYNDICATE, Inc.

DON'T WORRY. I'M GOING TO GET YOU TWO MARRIED, IF I HAVE TO FIGHT TWO ARMIES TO DO IT.
ISN'T HE WONDERFUL?! SO SELF-SACRIFICING!

THE SOLDIERS OF GANT AND JORGE GUARD EVERY ROAD INTO MORRISTOWN
WE'RE GOING ANYHOW. IS THE HAYCART READY?

HOP IN, KIDS. TODAY'S YOUR WEDDING DAY.
WHAT A WEDDING CARRIAGE!

CARL, ISN'T THIS THRILLING?
YEAH! IF THEY FIND US HERE, YOU'LL BE A WIDOW BEFORE YOU'RE A BRIDE!

WILSON McCOY 8-17
PULL UP FOR INSPECTION

WE'D BETTER EXAMINE THIS HAY.
GOT ORDERS TO INSPECT EVERYTHING.

HAY?
HEY!

HEY--!
U-UUMP!

WILSON McCOY 8-18
THEY'RE IN THAT CART! AFTER THEM!

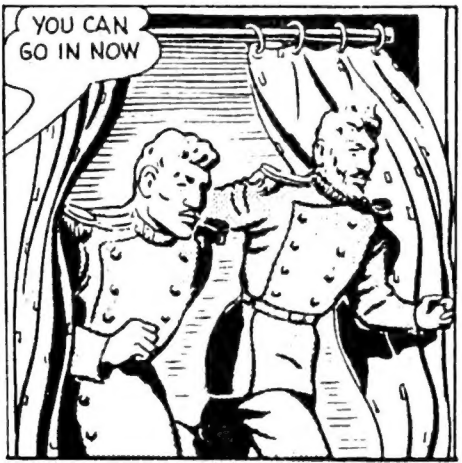
THIS IS THE PLACE!
HURRY - THEY'RE AFTER US!

WE'VE COME TO GET MARRIED, FAST! THIS IS PRINCESS GWENA AND I'M---
I KNOW. I'VE BEEN WAITING FOR YOU. ER - STEP IN--

MAKE IT SNAPPY! HERE COME THE BOYS!
WILSON McCOY 8-19

THEY WENT IN THERE! WE'RE NOT TOO LATE, JORGE!
WHO IN BLAZES IS THAT?

OUT OF OUR WAY, YOU - YOU--!
COOL YOUR HEELS, BOYS. IT WON'T BE LONG.


YOU CAN GO IN NOW

-MAN AND WIFE!

WHEW--JUST IN TIME! AT LAST - SHE'S SAFELY MARRIED TO SOMEBODY ELSE!
WILSON McCOY 8-20